ported in the Hindustan Times of June, 6, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of the racket and the mode of operation thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken and are being taken to prevent such rackets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has intimated that it had busted a credit card racket.

(b) CBI has reported that the arrested persons used to collect carbon papers already used in preparing charge slips in Hotel Mughal Sherton, Agra, and the details imprinted on said carbons were used for preparing bogus charge slips showing fake sales of goods to forign tourists and thereby receiving the amounts to the tune of lakhs of rupees from the banks.

(c) The CBI has arrested six persons and registered 5 criminal cases involving 8 accused persons.

RBI guidelines regarding dealers in overseas branches

2835. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to RBI guidelines the main duty of a Dealer is to operate in the Inter-Bank market and over familiarity of the dealer with the customers is prohibited;

(b) if so, whether the Overseas Branches at Bombay Madras and New Delhi have posted Dealers to deal in the Inter-Bank market and thereby decentralise the dealing and cover operation of Foreign Department, Calcutta;

(c) whether by allowing the dealers to quote Rates to customers the State Bank management is violating the RBI guidelines regarding over-familiarity of Dealers with the Customers; and

(d) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to remedy this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that as per their guidelines dealers are to operate in the inter-bank market according to the standards laid down by the managements of banks from time to time and in the best interests of the bank. They are also to provide an effective and quick feed back to the management. The larger bank may find it advisable to deal selectively with customer enquiries regarding rates and also conclude business with them in the dealing department itself instead of in the foreign exchange department. These guidelines further provide that the dealers attending to customer business should, as far as possible, distinct from the dealers in inter-bank market.

(b) and (c) State Bank of India (SBI) have reported that the dealing rooms at Bombay, New Delhi and Madras have been established solely out of commercial necessity with a view to withstand emerging competition in foreign exchange area from other banks, especially foreign banks. This has not been done with a view to decentralising the foreign exchange dealing and commerical operations which continue to be centralised at the Foreign Department, Calcutta. The dealing rooms at the above centres quote rates in consultation with and guidance of the Foreign Department, Calcutta to obviate the necessity of operating offices having to contact Foreign Department, Calcutta through the normal communication channels. SBI's dealing room are connected to Foreign Department, Calcutta with exclusive leased lines.

(d) Does not arise.

Sending of final accounts of Banks to C & A.G. for his opinion

2836. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the final accounts of the nationalised banks are not sent to C. & A. G. of India for his opinion;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therfor; and